

**REMARKS**

By way of the foregoing amendments to the claims, claims 1-13 have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies, to replace the words "characterized in that" with the word "wherein", and to make minor editorial changes. No new matter has been added.

The title has been amended to conform to the English language translation.

It is requested that the application be examined on the basis of the claims as amended and the title.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.


Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 13, 2004

By:



---

Robert S. Swecker  
Registration No. 19,885

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620